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PATENT APPLICATION

DOCKET NO.: IST.01USU1

IN THE  
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s): Mark L. Iske, et al.

Application No.: 10/646,968

Examiner: Tan-Uyen T. Ho

Filing Date: August 22, 2003

Group Art Unit: 3731

Title: SPRING-ACTUATED, RETRACTABLE-BLADED SURGICAL SCALPEL

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL LETTER FOR RESPONSE/AMENDMENT

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is/are the following in the above-identified application:

- (X) Response/Amendment – **"Amendment A" (Response to OA 1-25-2005)** ( ) Petition to extend time to respond  
( ) New fee as calculated below ( ) Supplemental Declaration  
(X) No additional fee  
( ) Other:

CLAIMS AS AMENDED BY SMALL ENTITY						
(1) FOR	(2) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	(3) NUMBER EXTRA	(4) HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(5) PRESENT EXTRA	(6) RATE	(7) ADDITIONAL FEES
TOTAL CLAIMS	18	MINUS	18	= 0	X \$25	\$0
INDEP. CLAIMS	3	MINUS	3	= 0	X \$100	\$0
[ ] FIRST PRESENTATION OF A MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM					+ \$180	\$
EXTENSION FEE	1ST MONTH \$60	2ND MONTH \$225	3RD MONTH \$510	4TH MONTH \$795	\$	
TOTAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT					\$0	

- ( ) Attached is a check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_.  
( ) Please charge to Deposit Account 50-1491 the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

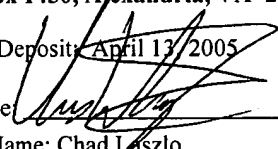
(X) At any time during the pendency of this application, please charge any fees required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 50-1491 pursuant to 37 CFR 1.25. Additionally please charge any fees to Deposit Account 50-1491 under 37 CFR 1.19, 1.20 and 1.21. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

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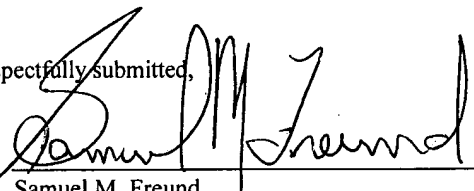
- [ ] First Class Mail  
[X] "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10.

"Express Mail" label no.: EV 669056270 US  
in an envelope addressed to:  
**Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents,  
P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

Date of Deposit: April 13, 2005

Signature:   
Typed Name: Chad Laszlo

Respectfully submitted,

By:   
Samuel M. Freund  
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Date: April 13, 2005



04-15-05

PRW

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Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT A**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action in the above-identified patent application dated January 25, 2005, kindly enter the following amendments to the CLAIMS and consider the following REMARKS.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS ARE SET FORTH BEGINNING ON PAGE 2 OF THIS AMENDMENT A.

REMARKS ARE SET FORTH BEGINNING ON PAGE 9 OF THIS AMENDMENT A.